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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/064,471

Examiner

Allen C. Ho

Applicant(s)

RAHN, JEFFREY

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed on 26 July 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3 and 18 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claims 1-3, Böhm *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,518,558 B1) disclosed an imaging system that comprise: an output device including a two-dimensional array of pixels; an illumination device (90); an input device that includes a plurality of pixels devices, each pixel device including: a multi-color sensor (01) that provides a first electronic signal and a second electronic signal, at least one transistor (07, 11, 15) connected to the sensor, a first capacitor (one of 08, 12, 16) that is selectively connected to the sensor, a second capacitor (another one of 08, 12, 16) that is selectively connected to the sensor, and a controller (100) that selectively stores the entirety of the first electronic signal in the first capacitor and stores the entirety of the second electronic signal in the second capacitor (column 8, lines 41-43); wherein each pixel device corresponds to a respective pixel in the two dimensional array of pixels. However, the prior art fails to disclose an illumination device that includes two illuminators, each illuminator capable of illuminating an object with a different color, wherein the multi-color sensor provides a first electronic signal representing the object illuminated by one of the two illuminators and a second electronic signal representing the object illuminated by the other of the two illuminators as claimed.

With regard to claim 18, Böhm *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,518,558 B1) disclosed an imaging system that comprise: an output device including a two-dimensional array of pixels; an

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illumination device (90); an input device that includes a plurality of pixels devices, each pixel device including: a multi-color sensor (01) that provides a first electronic signal and a second electronic signal, at least one transistor (07, 11, 15) connected to the sensor, a first capacitor (one of 08, 12, 16) that is selectively connected to the sensor, a second capacitor (another one of 08, 12, 16) that is selectively connected to the sensor, and a controller (100) that controls the electronic signal that represents a multi-color image provided by the sensor, and selectively stores the entirety of the first electronic signal in the first capacitor and stores the entirety of the second electronic signal in the second capacitor (column 8, lines 41-43). However, the prior art fails to disclose an illumination device that includes two illuminators, each illuminator capable of illuminating an object with a different color, wherein the multi-color sensor provides a first electronic signal representing the object illuminated by one of the two illuminators and a second electronic signal representing the object illuminated by the other of the two illuminators as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 26 July 2006 with respect to claims 1-3 and 18 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-3 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stettner *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 5,629,524) has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- (1) Morris *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 7,098,952 B2) disclosed a multi-color sensor that comprises a plurality of capacitors (70).
- (2) Finch *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,885,002 B1) disclosed a multi-color sensor that comprises two capacitors (Cint1, Cint2).
- (3) Wyles *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 5,751,005) disclosed a multi-color sensor that comprises two capacitors (C1, C2).
- (4) Cox *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 4,905,265) disclosed an x-ray imaging system that comprises a plurality of capacitors (34).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen C. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-2491. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Allen C. Ho, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
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01 September 2006